

Child Welfare League of America, Inc.

130 East Twenty-second Street, New York City

Bulletin

NEW SERIES, VOL. VII, No. 10

DECEMBER, 1928

"The first tendencies toward love and tenderness are concerned with the relationship to the mother. Perhaps this is the most important experience which a child can have, for in this experience he realizes the existence of another trustworthy person. He learns the difference between 'I' and 'You.'"—ALFRED ADLER

IMPORTANT BUSINESS TRANSACTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT OCTOBER MEETING

There were present at this meeting: Albert H. Stone-
man, President, Ralph Barrow, Paul T. Beisser, Jessie
P. Condit, Mrs. Gertrude M. Dubinsky, Mrs. Charles
S. Hopkinson, Cheney C. Jones, Jacob Kepecs, M. L.
Kesler, Mary S. Labaree, Katherine F. Lenroot, Owen
R. Lovejoy, J. Prentice Murphy, Mrs. Charles R.
Peck, W. Frank Persons, Mrs. Lessing J. Rosenwald,
Ruth Taylor, Charlotte Whitton, C. V. Williams,
Mrs. Ruth I. Workum, C. C. Carstens.

Mr. Carstens explained that the League had been
incorporated since the meeting of the Executive Com-
mittee last October and the Executive Committee had
become the Board of Directors.

Mr. Kepecs asked concerning the possibility of
establishing branch offices in other parts of the country,
e. g., Chicago. The matter was referred to the Plan
and Scope Committee and later by vote to the Execu-
tive Committee for consideration.

The President announced the following standing
committees for the current year: *Finance Committee*—
Mr. Beisser, Chairman, Mr. Kepecs, Mr. Lovejoy, Mrs.
Peck, Mrs. Rosenwald, Mr. Joseph E. Bolding, ex-
officio. *Admission to Membership*—Miss Labaree,
Chairman, Miss Rhoda Kaufman, Mr. Williams, Mrs.
Workum. *Standards of Membership*—Miss Lenroot,
Chairman, Mrs. Hopkinson, Mr. Kepecs, Rev. Kesler,
Miss Whitton. *Plan and Scope*—Mr. Murphy, Chair-
man, Mr. Persons, Miss Ruth Taylor. *New Move-
ments*—Mr. Jones, Chairman, Mrs. Dubinsky, Miss
Lenroot. *Publications and Research*—Miss Ruth Tay-
lor, Chairman, Miss Louise Drury, Mrs. Dubinsky,
Miss Whitton. *Regional Conferences*—Miss Kaufman,
Chairman, Mr. Lovejoy, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Workum.
Publicity and Finance Methods—Mr. Barrow, Chair-
man, Mr. Whitman, Miss Hertha Miller. *Executive*

(Continued on page 2, column 1)

The League's staff wishes all its members and
friends a Happy New Year for 1929.

INSTITUTION NEWS

THORNWELL ORPHANAGE IMPROVES HEALTH PROGRAM

For several years Thornwell Orphanage, a Presby-
terian institution at Clinton, S. C., has been emphasiz-
ing the importance of case work as a basis for all de-
cisions conditioning the admission, care and discharge
of children. Now this institution, which cares for
normal dependent children, has endeavored to take
another advance step in the matter of a better health
program.

In the past there has not been a careful and exhaus-
tive examination of the children on admission or at any
time during the year. A "family physician" has been
employed at a nominal salary, and he has been called
as occasion has arisen. The smallness of the fee has
not been the measure of his interest and attention. The
work has always been given faithful attention.

But as this was not deemed sufficient, arrangements
were made in September with a skilled diagnostician in
Greenville, S. C. (forty-three miles from Clinton), to
come for a careful examination of all the 320 children
then in the orphanage. He brought an assistant from
the City Hospital in Greenville. It required nine trips
and the doctors worked from four till eight o'clock
with an intermission for dinner. The Child Welfare
League's medical blanks for making the records (Child's
Medical Record Form C-a) were used.

It was found that four children had incipient tuber-
culosis. It was thought that three of them needed
hospital care. Seventy children showed a deficiency
in diet which if allowed to continue might lead to
pellagra. A number were under weight; a number
were found with enlarged tonsils and adenoids. Blood
tests and other more detailed examinations were made
of such children as seemed in any way suspicious. A
few were found who called for a little follow-up work.
These latter are being sent by auto to Greenville for
laboratory tests and further study. Suggestions as to
an improved diet were made and the diet has been im-

(Continued on page 4, column 1)

REPORT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

(Continued)

Committee—Mr. Murphy, Miss Ruth Taylor, Mr. Jones, Mr. Beisser, Miss Lenroot. *Surveys Committee*—Mr. Murphy, Miss Ruth Taylor, Mr. Lovejoy. *Education and Training*—Mrs. Peck, Chairman, Miss Caroline M. Crosby, Rev. Kesler, Miss Labaree.

The President announced that the League had conducted a successful Publicity Conference in the Russell Sage Foundation Building on October 26th and 27th, 1928, and that the members of that Conference had requested that the Board of Directors create a Committee on Publicity and Finance Methods, with three functions:

- (1) To arrange for the exchange of material between agencies.
- (2) To make available exhibits of appeal letters, annual reports, etc.
- (3) To arrange for a similar conference next year.

IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that the League establish a standing committee on Publicity and Finance and that in shaping its work it give consideration to the above recommendations.

The Committee on Standards of Membership recommended:

(1) That the Board of Directors proceed to draft and adopt standards of membership for constituent groups in accordance with the plan presented by the Committee, standards of child-placing agencies to be given first consideration, inasmuch as definite standards for admission of institutions have already been adopted.

(2) That a letter be sent immediately to all child-placing agencies, members of the League, informing them of the above provisional standard, and asking for information concerning the provision made for the above service.

(3) It was the consensus of opinion that the time had come when, if membership in the League was to mean anything, it must mean adherence to certain minimum standards, and that if new applicants were to be required to meet certain standards, these same standards must be adhered to by those already within the League.

IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that these recommendations of the Committee be adopted.

IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that the recommendation of the Committee to the effect that the League look forward to developing field service and the promotion and maintenance of standards of member agencies, as finances permit, and that the standing of all agencies hereafter admitted to membership be reviewed one year after admission and at such later times as may be deemed desirable, such review to be

made by the League staff, member agencies or through arrangements with cooperating agencies, be adopted.

IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that the following provisional standard recommended by the Committee on Standards of Membership pending a complete statement of standards for child-placing agencies, be adopted: THAT effective October 1, 1929, all members of the League engaging in child-placing shall make provision for investigation of children's cases before admission or on acceptance, and for investigation of prospective foster homes before placement, and all such investigations and supervisory activities to be through personal visits by qualified follow-up children's case work.

IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that the recommendation of the Committee on Standards of Membership that in the admission of *Baby Homes* to membership insistence be placed upon the provision for adequate pediatric and case work services, be adopted.

On recommendation by the Plan and Scope Committee, IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that the Executive Director should be responsible for the direction of the financial activities of the League; that all finance promotional plans which may be developed from time to time should be coordinate with and not independent of the other League activities. It further seems advisable that all requests for League support should be expressed in the name of the President or Director. This will assure complete unity of approach to the country in behalf of the broad program which is the concern of the League staff and Directors.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee stated that the Committee was determined to wipe out the present deficit of approximately \$6,000 during 1929, and to undertake no new work unless funds were assured. In 1928 about \$23,000 will be collected in quota and it is expected that \$26,000 will be secured for 1929.

IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that the departmentalized budget for 1929 for a total of \$70,620 be adopted.

It was suggested that, besides making surveys for member agencies and others who were able to pay for the service, the League should do pioneer work in backward communities. The Board should encourage the interest of Foundations and other agencies or individuals in projects of this kind.

IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that the report of the Regional Conference Committee recommending that regional conferences be held in New York, Chicago, Cincinnati, Atlanta and Boston during 1929, and that the following topics be recommended for consideration of the program committees, be adopted.

- (1) Next steps in the development of institutional care.
- (2) The various aspects of child-placing, with discussion on placing by (a) courts, (b) maternity

homes, (c) special agencies, (d) public departments.

- (3) Standards of case work for League membership.
- (4) Methods for publicity and finance.
- (5) A review of the work of the League by Mr. Carstens, together with an outline of what has been accomplished by children's agencies in the regions surrounding the conferences.
- (6) Program presented by the Inter-City Conference on Illegitimacy.

IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that the report of the Committee on Publications and Research recommending that one case record be edited and published by the League each year, if possible, and that a set of minimum standards for child-caring institutions and agencies be formulated by the League and published, and that as soon as funds can be made available, the sum of \$1,000 be included in the League's budget for the development of better public welfare statistics in the children's field, be adopted.

IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that the Executive Director request annual reports of statistics from member agencies.

On recommendation of the Committee on Education and Training, IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED that (1) the League offer an institute in 1929, the central theme being case work problems for both institutional and agency workers, and that the Publicity Institute be combined with it, if possible; (2) as it will be necessary for institutions and agencies to train persons to fill positions for which not enough trained persons are available from schools, the League recommends a carefully formulated apprenticeship training program by the larger agencies and urges that a portion of the working week be set aside for the trainee to take at least one course at a school or university, if such be available, or to devote some time to study outside of the work of the agency. For this purpose the League staff will assist in outlining, initiating and conducting such courses of apprenticeship training; (3) that the work of training through a traveling staff as previously undertaken be begun again as soon as finances and staff permit, the agencies to bear a substantial part of the expense, and the staff of the League to be increased when possible to extend a similar service to the staffs of institutions.

EASTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

TO BE IN NEW YORK, JANUARY 4 AND 5

The program for the Conference is as follows:

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4TH

9:30-10 A. M.—Registration, Foyer, Russell Sage Foundation, 130 East 22nd Street, New York, N. Y.

A registration fee of twenty-five cents will be charged.

10 A. M.—12:30 P. M.—Chairman, Mr. Henry W. Thurston, New York School of Social Work.

1. Opportunities Offered the Child Welfare League of America to Set Standards of Child-Caring Work.—C. C. Carstens, Executive Director.
2. How Can We Get Good Publicity and Discourage Harmful Publicity? Leigh Mitchell Hodges, The Children's Bureau of Philadelphia.
3. Are Folkways Being Affected by the Newer Social Viewpoints? Miss Mary E. Boretz, Home Bureau, Hebrew Sheltering Guardian Society.

2:30 P. M.—4:30 P. M.—Round Table Meetings.

1. Supervision of Workers. Chairman: Miss Irene Liggett, Assistant Secretary, Children's Aid Society of Pennsylvania.
2. How Can We Get the Child Adjusted Back into His own Community after an Experience in
 - (a) an institution?
 - (b) a foster home?

Chairman: Rev. Bryan J. McEntegart, Director, Division of Children, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of New York.

3. The County as a Unit for Work for Children. Chairman: Miss H. Ida Curry, State Charities Aid Association, New York.
4. Relationship Between Agencies Caring for Unmarried Mothers and Child Placing Agencies in the Field of Boarding Care for Illegitimate Children. Chairman: Miss E. Marguerite Gane, Director of Foster Home Care, Children's Aid and Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children of Erie County, New York.
5. Training of the Feeble-minded Child. How Far Should a Child Placing Agency Go with Him Before Committing Him to an Institution? Chairman: Dr. Frederick Allen, Director, Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic.

6:30 P. M.—Dinner Meeting (Reservations \$2.50, per plate). Ball Room, McAlpin Hotel, Broadway and 34th Street.

Program to be broadcast, Station WNYC, 8 P. M.

Presiding: Owen R. Lovejoy, Secretary, Children's Aid Society, New York.

Speakers: (a) The Pre-School Child—Dr. Helen T. Woolley, Director, Institute of Child Welfare Research, Teachers College, New York.

THE CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

President—ALBERT H. STONEMAN, Detroit
1st Vice-President—J. PRENTICE MURPHY, Philadelphia
2d Vice-President—REV. M. L. KESLER, Thomasville, N. C.
3d Vice-President—MRS. LESSING ROSENWALD, Philadelphia
Secretary—MISS JESSIE P. CONDIT, Newark
Treasurer—JOSEPH E. BOLDING, Corn Exchange Bank, New York
Executive Director—C. C. CARSTENS

- (b) Fundamental Objectives in Children's Work—Dr. John A. Lapp, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wis.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH

10 A. M.—12:30 P. M.—East and South Halls, Russell Sage Foundation. Chairman: Mrs. Willard Parker, Jr.

1. The Development of the Spiritual Life of the Child.—Mrs. Sophie Lyons Fahs, Union Theological Seminary, New York.
 Dr. John L. Elliott, Hudson Guild, New York.

INSTITUTION NEWS

(Continued)

proved. A graduate of an agricultural college has been employed for the farm and garden with a view to securing a better vegetable supply from the garden.

Brewers' yeast has been given to seventy children and cod-liver oil to thirty. One child has been gotten into a tuberculosis hospital. Another has been sent to Florida and will be placed in a camp if he needs it. Steps are being taken to get a third into the hospital.

The children themselves have responded to the program. They have been delighted to report: "I have gained seven pounds," or three or five. For several years this diagnostician has done considerable free work for the orphanage in his office and because of his great interest will continue to do this, but he has been paid for his services at the institution. In the light of the service rendered and results secured, Dr. L. Ross Lynn, President of the Orphanage, has felt that the compensation was pitifully small. Although it only amounted to about \$1.50 per child the cost represents a substantial amount from the point of view of most institution executives. The precedent established by Thornwell Orphanage will help other institutions to understand that painstaking preventive health service is worth paying for.

As to future plans, it is proposed to give greater attention to diet, to have all new children examined in the Greenville office, to have an occasional visit from

the doctor to the Orphanage, and to have the whole group gone over once a year.

TRAINING FOR COTTAGE MOTHERS AT CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

LEONARD W. MAYO

The National Training School for Institution Executives and Other Workers at Dobbs Ferry, New York, is conducting a special course of training for the Cottage Mothers of the Children's Village and neighboring child-caring institutions.

The course opened October 1st, and is so arranged that it may be carried on in correlation with the regular duties of the cottage.

The plan of instruction includes lectures, discussions and fundamental reading assignments, and was formulated after a careful study and survey of the few similar courses now being offered in the field.

Causative factors in delinquency and dependency are stressed and biological factors in behavior outlined. The place of the child-caring institution in a general welfare program is also discussed, as is the function and challenge of the cottage mother in the institution's program. In this way there is laid an adequate foundation for a thorough and practical review of definite cottage and conduct problems.

It is evident that there is a need for the education of the entire institution field in the matter of training. Only through educated and trained executives can we expect an increase in the number of cottage mothers' training courses, with a consequent development of professional standards for cottage mothers.

It appears that the immediate need of today is for the training of executives and sub-executives, inasmuch as they stand in the position to educate their Boards and the staff members subordinated to them. Cottage mothers' training courses, therefore, are a hopeful sign, providing they are conducted along constructive lines, but they must receive the encouragement and support of all those interested in the field of child welfare. Nearly every social worker at one time or another finds it necessary to use the institution for a specified type of child. It is, therefore, of utmost importance that institution methods, techniques, and treatment should be of the highest caliber. Cottage mothers' training courses have this objective.

THE NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The 1928 New England Regional Conference of the Child Welfare League of America, Inc., held in Boston, November 13 and 14, brought together representatives from practically all the child-caring organizations in the New England states.

Dr. C. C. Carstens, Executive Director of the League, set the "key-note" of the conference at the luncheon meeting on the first day. In outlining recent progress in service to children Dr. Carstens spoke of two general movements, namely, the development of resources to meet the needs of all children and the attempt to understand each child as an individual and to meet his peculiar needs. Workers were urged to consider the children's field not as a separate one, but as part of the community program, and to give impetus to normal development of community work and family welfare, remembering that in the best grade of children's work a child grows up in his own family.

Dr. Augusta F. Bronner, Director, Judge Baker Foundation, spoke on the topic, "What Determines the Allocation of a Child to an Institution or to Foster Home Care?" Dr. Bronner said she felt the subject was one for research and her remarks were based largely on a recent study of 500 children placed in foster homes. Her knowledge of institutions was based merely on observation. Dr. Bronner said that institutions had been established for four groups of children, i. e. (1) the non-problem dependent child; (2) the pre-delinquent child; (3) the delinquent child; and (4) the child in need of special care because of mental or physical handicap.

The non-problem child who Dr. Bronner felt could benefit by institutional care included (1) children whose home standards of manners and morals are such that the child would not fit into a foster home; (2) children who are so rebellious that they must be taught that they must accept guidance; (3) children who are too ego-centric and who need group work for a short time.

The pre-delinquent and delinquent types who might benefit by institutions are (1) children who are sources of contamination to others (example: those who constantly indulge in sex talks); (2) children who need to be protected from themselves (example: those who have certain bad habits from which they cannot escape in the community); (3) children who need institutional confinement as a deterrent; (4) exceedingly unstable children bordering on the psychopathic; (5) children whose families are of such poor caliber that they must be placed where families may not reach or affect them.

Children whom Dr. Bronner recommended especially for foster home care were, (1) children who need good environment; (2) problems of inferiority or other conflicts who need much personal care and understanding. Dr. Bronner feels that it is often wise to try foster home care even if failure is expected, as it may help not to give a child the feeling of being stamped a type.

90% of the normal children of the 500 children studied by Dr. Bronner succeeded in foster homes. Of

the failures, several succeeded in institutions. Dr. Bronner does not feel that this percentage may be given great weight, as many of the children of the group passed through several foster homes and all were the subject of specialized work by the Judge Baker Foundation and the Children's Agency.

Dr. Louis B. Wolfenson, superintendent, Home for Jewish Children, discussed the subject from the point of view of the institution. He felt that all normal dependent children between 8 and 14 years of age might be cared for in institutions. He agreed with Dr. Bronner that long-time placements were wrong and urged the training of all institutional workers. He advocated the use of public schools for institutional children. He felt that the institution itself should place children at or after 14 years of age.

Miss Katherine P. Hewins, Executive Director, the Church Home Society, spoke from the viewpoint of the child-placing agency. She noted the general agreement that both the institution and the child-placing agency has its place. She gave the Child Welfare League definition of a foster home as "A family in which not more than 3 children not related are placed under supervision," but stated that 3 problem children were ordinarily too many. She suggested the value of a study of children in institutions similar to that of Dr. Bronner. She compared the needs and problems of the institution and the child-placing agency. Miss Hewins emphasized the need of money, brains, and time in home finding, and freely admitted the frequent necessity of temporary placement. She emphasized the need of small case loads that visitors might give individual attention to problems and educate foster mothers. She also urged the need of State supervision of the professional or commercial foster home.

Dr. Miriam Van Waters spoke on Parental Education. Since parents cannot be objective in the observation of their own children, the method of having parents observe other people's children has come into existence with the development of the nursery school and is much more successful.

One of the difficulties in rearing children is that we are so anxious, so fearful, so ignorant and inexperienced. The attitude of parents is often fatalistic as to the inherited traits of the child. So a great deal of the information goes to show parents that these traits can be modified. After attending a nursery the parent begins to take a more scientific attitude. The parent begins to discover that the child is different from adults and that he requires different food and furniture, needs more room and privacy, and that he cannot be brought into the family and reared as a mascot.

Miss Helen D. Pigeon, Executive Secretary, Inter-

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from page 5, column 2)

national Assn. of Policewomen, spoke on the subject of the social treatment of the older and delinquent girl. Miss Pigeon made a strong plea for policewomen and stressed the fact that a definite type of policewomen was needed.

Mr. Eugene R. Smith, Head Master of the Beaver Country Day School, had for his topic "Socialized Education." An abstract of Mr. Smith's paper will be printed in an early issue of the BULLETIN.

Rev. George P. O'Connor, Director, Catholic Charities Bureau, was chairman of the round table at which the place of the institution in the community was discussed. It was agreed that there is a definite place in the community for an institution which is equipped to render particular forms of service in accordance with proper standards. The group also went on record in expressing appreciation to the Regional for the attention given the institution and its problems and for the discussion of institutions at all meetings.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ATLANTA REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The Southern Regional Conference of the Child Welfare League of America, Inc., was held in Atlanta on December 3 and 4. The conference was well attended and the program was a most interesting one, expressing mainly the changing emphasis of child welfare developments of the present day. The conference was opened by Mr. C. C. Carstens, who spoke of developments in Southern states in county organizations for social service. He urged that county organization, as far as it represents public service, does not take the place of private social service. Mr. Carstens then listed the principal tasks with which county child welfare workers must be concerned, for it is obvious that a county public organization cannot do the whole job by itself.

Mrs. Florence S. Adams, Supervisor of the Extension Division of the Child Welfare Dept. of Alabama, in her discussion of the problems met in developing child-care programs in county organizations, pointed out the necessity of arousing community consciousness in knowing the service needed and converting this service to the needs. We must know and use the key people and existing agencies of the community if we are to coordinate all resources of the community. Existing agencies should be used whenever possible without defeating essential purposes. Along with many other duties the county workers of Alabama have responsibilities for school attendance. In the counties where there are workers the attendance has increased greatly. In these counties the county gives 40% to the budget and the State 60%. On January 1, 1929, there will be 55 counties in Alabama with appropriations out

of the 67. Alabama has definite standards for county workers and is able to maintain these standards because of the requirement for certification of each worker by the State Child Welfare Department. Each worker must be a graduate of an A-grade college and have three years of practical experience. Teaching is accepted as suitable experience if the worker has had at least a six weeks' course of social service training.

At the luncheon meeting held at the Ansley Hotel, Mr. Carstens spoke of fundamental principles of a children's aid program as seen by the Child Welfare League of America, Inc. He emphasized the primary importance of the relationship of a child to his own family and the necessity of making efforts to keep the home intact—especially since ultimately it is families that make up a community.

Joint responsibility of children's agencies and maternity hospitals to develop uniform standards of case work with unmarried mothers and children was discussed by Lt. Col. Martha Hamon, Secretary, Women's Social Service Department of the Southern Territory of the Salvation Army. Special emphasis was laid on the efforts being made to keep mother and child together. The processes incident to this in the cases of maternity homes or hospitals were referred to as being dependent upon a connecting link outside, ostensibly with a child-caring agency. One means of promoting family solidarity appears in the efforts of some institutions in training the girls, while under care, in such things as nursing, child-caring, cooking and home making so as to enable them to adequately fill positions when again physically able to do so.

Miss Emma Hardeastle, of the Georgia Children's Home Society, followed Mrs. Hamon and told of the problem in some of the maternity homes of making a boarding home another of their functions and also of failing to make investigations prior to intake. Too often sufficient care is not taken regarding newspaper reporters, resulting in articles about specific cases which invariably block the chances of the mothers to reassume their responsibilities for their children, especially when the mothers are sensitive to public opinion.

The evening speaker, Dr. George Preston, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene for the State of Maryland, discussed the place of the child guidance clinic in a children's program. He began with the fact that children were first treated en masse, that then there was special consideration for dependent children and orphans and that later came mental classifications of normal and abnormal children. The study of psychiatry came in here showing an interest in all behavior, casting aside the earlier classifications and bringing us the present mental hygiene approach. Causal factors

were then treated in detail. In summing up Dr. Preston counted the cost of a child guidance clinic to the community, urging social workers to realize that mental hygiene is no panacea for the problems facing the social worker, but rather it is a luxury to be superimposed upon social work. Its rewards are brought about only by consistent hard work.

Changing emphasis in the institution's program of child care was the general subject of one session. From the point of view of a member of the staff of the Child Welfare League of America, Inc., Mr. H. W. Hopkirk laid particular stress upon the increasing recognition of the need for thorough investigations prior to admission and discharge of children, and careful, regular examinations, physical and psychological, of children during their life within the institution. Also he urged the need of well-trained cottage mothers if they are to be useful as substitutes for real mothers.

Mr. H. Daugherty, superintendent of the South Georgia Methodist Orphans' Home, then cited some of the obstacles which institutions have overcome in the past and must overcome in the future. Among these were public sentiment, gifts, self-perpetuating boards, cheap help, and incompetent superintendents. In spite of this, however, he felt that orphanages have shown more real advancement than other social service organizations within the last fifteen years.

Miss Lavinia Keys, social worker for Connie Maxwell Orphanage, Greenwood, S. C., reviewed cases which clearly showed how efforts may be made to eliminate thoughtless placement of children. One case was an example of the success of a mothers' aid plan, another involved extensive cooperation within a small community, another was a case in which the institution provided temporary care during a mother's illness.

In one of the children's institutions in Cincinnati there is a six-year-old boy who has given considerable trouble because of his habit of appropriating property belonging to others. Recently he came home from Sunday School with a jeweled ornament which belonged on his teacher's hat. Last Saturday night when he said his prayers he included the following supplication on his own initiative:

"Dear Lord, tomorrow I am going to God's house and for heaven's sake don't let me bring home anything which does not belong to me."

P. S.—The prayer was answered.

ENCLOSURES

(Sent to members only)

79th Annual Report—The Children's Mission to Children, Boston, Mass.

LEAGUE SELECTS SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE HEADQUARTERS

Sessions of the Child Welfare League of America and all luncheon, dinner and business meetings of the League will be held at the Clift Hotel, San Francisco, at the time of the National Conference of Social Work, June 26 to July 3, 1929.

The Clift is only one block from the National Conference headquarters' hotel and is within walking distance of the civic center, where all the sessions of the National Conference will be held. The Clift is admirably situated and equipped to be the headquarters for all children's workers, whether members of the League or not, and as far as our members can it would be advantageous to encourage centralizing the children's group at the Clift.

So that child welfare workers may have the opportunity of making the Clift their residence throughout the conference, the management has been requested by us to reserve for their use a substantial part of its room space. Members of the League are advised to make hotel reservations at once. Because of the favorable reputation of the Clift Hotel and its central location, we may expect its capacity to be exhausted at an early date. The rates quoted by the Clift Hotel for the period of the conference are as follows:

Single room, with bath, one person, \$4, \$5, and \$6.

Double room, with bath, two persons, \$6, \$7 and \$8.

CHANGES FOR DIRECTORY

DELAWARE—Children's Bureau, Wilmington. Miss Mildred Terrett, resigned. Succeeded by Miss Elizabeth Woodward.

MARYLAND—Maryland Children's Aid Society, Baltimore. New address—2109 N. Calvert Street.

MASSACHUSETTS—Bethesda Society, Boston. New address, 31 Mt. Vernon Street.

The Jewish Children's Bureau of Boston, Inc., Miss Rose E. Cohen, Acting Director, instead of Mrs. Miriam C. Steinberg, Director.

MINNESOTA—Maternity Hospital, Minneapolis. New address—2215 Glenwood Avenue.

NEW YORK—Jewish Children's Clearing Bureau. The name Avenue "A" changed to York Avenue. Number the same.

OHIO—Welfare Assn. for Jewish Children, Cleveland. New address—316 Electric Building.

The Children's Home, Cincinnati. New address—909 Plum Street.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Division of Child Care, Charleston. Miss C. Floride Bissell, instead of Miss Emily Bullitt.

INTER-CITY CONFERENCE ON ILLEGITIMACY BULLETIN

President: DR. GEORGE B. MANGOLD, Los Angeles, Cal.
Vice-President: MISS LOUISE DRURY, Los Angeles, Cal.
Secretary: MISS ELEANOR D. MYERS, St. Louis, Mo.
Treasurer: MISS HERTHA MILLER, St. Louis, Mo.

THE CENSUS STATISTICS ON ILLEGITIMACY

DR. GEORGE B. MANGOLD

Department of Sociology, University of Southern California,
Los Angeles, California

In the year 1917 the Federal Bureau of Census began to publish statistics on illegitimacy. With some modifications the Bureau accepted the figures reported by the various states. Nevertheless no claim is made that the statistics are adequate. However, they help to give us an appreciation of the approximate number of illegitimate births per year and in addition furnish other information of value to the agencies interested in the unmarried mother and her child.

In order that the reader may know what the federal statistics reveal the following table is presented. It includes figures for the registration district and for five states typical of conditions throughout the country.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS PER 1,000 BIRTHS

Year	Rate		Native White		Foreign-born White		Colored	
	1917	1924	1917	1924	1917	1924	1917	1924
Total registration area..	17.9	24.1	15.2	16.5	5.3	5.9	116.8	120.6
Connecticut	9.3	12.6	14.1	16.4	5.1	5.2	55.2	71.1
New York	12.2	12.3	16.9	14.8	5.7	5.2	77.7	60.2
Virginia	53.5	54.6	20.0	20.3	3.5	4.5	128.0	133.1
Minnesota	16.1	18.5	18.4	19.6	7.4	10.1	50.0	66.7
Washington	9.4	16.4	9.3	16.9	6.0	13.5	—	—

According to this table there has been a considerable increase in illegitimacy during the eight years spanned by the dates given above. In the later year nearly two and one-half per cent of all births were classified as illegitimate. The census records the total number of such births as 42,209. These figures are for the registration area only, which comprised 76.2 per cent of the population. If the proportions for the remaining states are about the same, then the total number of illegitimate births in the United States in 1924 was in excess of 55,000. Partial statistics available for 1925 indicate a slightly lower rate for that year. However, the number of white births had increased while that of the colored races fell. In any case the problem of illegitimacy in this country is represented by the minimum figures given herein. The real figure is probably considerably larger, since much illegitimacy is never tabulated in our vital statistics.

Probably the most striking facts revealed in this

table are the differences in rates between the native and the foreign-born whites and between the whites and the colored. In none of the states giving information was the rate for the foreign-born as high as that for the native whites. Among the colored races the rates for the negroes were uniformly high, while those for the Mongolians were comparatively low. In view of the high rates of illegitimacy current in Europe, the foreign-born here present a very interesting study.

The census also reveals valuable facts in respect to the ages of the mothers. These figures, it must be remembered, are for the entire group of mothers and not for a limited class, as is frequently the case in a typical study by some social agency. For the year 1924 it appears that almost exactly 50 per cent of the white mothers were under twenty years of age and for negro mothers the figure was 57.8. Among the foreign-born the situation is quite the reverse. Of the Italian girls, only one-third were under twenty; among the Poles slightly more than one-fourth and among the Irish only about one-eighth. Not only is there less illegitimacy among the foreign-born women but when it does appear it occurs in periods of physical maturity. The census unfortunately does not reveal the social conditions or attending circumstances that provoke these differences.

The figures relating to urban and rural rates have a limited significance. For example, they show that among negroes the rural rate is considerably higher than that of the cities. Considering the social and educational advantages that the city affords the negro, this disparity may be expected. On the other hand, among the whites the urban is to the rural rate as 16.0 is to 12.8. How much of this difference is fictitious no one knows. That many expectant mothers leave the country for hospitals in the city is, of course, well known. Perhaps the rates would not differ very much if these cases were charged against the rural regions to which, sociologically speaking, they belong.

The still-birth rate is twice as high among illegitimate as among legitimate children. This outcome is to be expected and cannot easily be remedied.

Workers in this field of social service hope that our vital statistics may in the near future cover the entire country and may also include additional information of sociological value, so that a better understanding of some of the underlying factors may be attained.

The publicity article planned for this issue of the BULLETIN will appear in January.

Reserve February 7 and 8, 1929, for the Ohio Valley Regional Conference at Cincinnati.

